

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 CIAE-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACTIMMEDIATE 3291

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM NIACTIMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA NIACTIMMEDIATE

S E C R E T KINSHASA 5721

FROM VANCE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC (SMUTS, BARBARA), (SMITH, KENNETH STEPHEN)

(HUNTER, CARRIE JANE) PINS

SUBJECT: KIDNAPPED AMERICANS: MOBUTU ORDERS STANDDOWN

ZAIRIAN FORCES

WHEN I SAW PRESIDENT MOBUTU THIS EVENING (JUNE 25) HE SAID HE HAD JUST HEARD NEWS REPORT ON RADIO THAT A BOAT POSSIBLY CONTAINING MEMBERS OF THE NEGOTIATING PARTY CONNECTED WITH THE KIDNAPPED STUDENTS HAD BEEN TURNED BACK BY ZAIRIAN COAST GUARD FIRE. IN FRONT OF ME MOBUTU TELEPHONED CHIEF OF STAFF GENERAL BABIA AND ORDERED COMPLETE STANDOWN OF ZAIRIAN FORCES ON LAKE TANGANYIKA FROM 0800 TOMORROW MORNING UNTIL STUDENTS RELEASED.

ANDREW

NOTE BY OC/T: DISTRIBUTION COORDINATED WITH S/S-O: MS MATTESON

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